



CALIFORNIA CLIMATE ACTION TEAM MEDIA RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
April 20, 2007

CONTACT: BreAnda Northcutt
(916) 324 9670

ARB and CAT Propose Early Greenhouse Gas Reductions

*ARB and CAT Release Proposals to Pursue
Early Reductions as Defined by AB 32*

SACRAMENTO – Today, the Air Resources Board and the Climate Action Team released proposed early actions to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. Officials suggest that the combined proposed strategies could reduce greenhouse gas emissions by approximately 34 million metric tons per year by 2020 – approximately 20 percent of the amount needed to roll back emissions in California to 1990 levels.

“The early actions released today by the Air Resources Board and members of the Climate Action Team underscore our commitment to a comprehensive and reasonable approach to reducing greenhouse gas emissions,” said Linda Adams, Secretary for Environmental Protection. “These early actions balance California’s economic needs and environmental realities. I’m proud of what we’ve been able to achieve in such a short time and trust that these proposed early actions will be fast-tracked in order to meet the aggressive deadlines in the Global Warming Solutions Act.”

The ARB is required by the Global Warming Solutions Act/AB 32 to identify a list of “discrete early action greenhouse gas reduction measures” by June 30, 2007; then to adopt regulations by Jan. 1, 2010. Working in tandem with the ARB, the CAT also released a list of proposed early actions as defined by AB 32. These are the early actions that have been proposed by other California agencies to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, though not required by the law.

There are many other ongoing or expected activities that, although they are early climate efforts, do not fall under the strict definition of the Global Warming Solutions Act/AB 32. These other “early actions” may include items for which regulations cannot be implemented before January 1, 2010 or for which regulation is not appropriate. (See the CAT Early Action report for more details on these other reduction strategies.)

- MORE -

The CAT was initiated by Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger in 2005, and charged with developing strategies to reach the governor's aggressive greenhouse gas-reduction targets. On Sept. 27, 2006, the governor signed Assembly Bill 32, putting those targets into law (1990 by 2020, a 25% reduction), and establishing the world's most comprehensive greenhouse gas reduction strategy.

The law requires the California Air Resources Board to implement a statewide greenhouse gas emissions reduction strategy. In addition, the Governor requested the members of the Climate Action Team to work alongside the ARB to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from their respective jurisdictions.

The ARB proposed early actions report can be found at www.arb.ca.gov. The CAT proposed early actions report can be found at http://www.climatechange.ca.gov/climate_action_team/.

Summary of early actions as defined by the Global Warming Solutions Act with Preliminary Estimates of GHG reductions:

State agency	Early action item	Estimated Reduction (in MMTCO ₂ E*)
Air Resources Board	Low Carbon Fuel Standard: Reduce the carbon content of transportation fuels by 10% by 2020.	10
Air Resources Board	Refrigerant Restrictions: Restrict the use of hydrofluorocarbons used in non-professional recharging of leaky automotive air conditioning systems.	1
Air Resources Board & Integrated Waste Management Board	Landfill Methane Capture: Set statewide standards for installation and performance of active gas collection and control systems at municipal solid waste landfills.	2
Business, Transportation & Housing Agency	Cement Standards: Set cement specification to allow 2.5% interground limestone concrete mix in cement use.	<1
Department of Food & Agriculture	Hydrogen Fuel Standards: Development of standards for use in combustion and fuel cells	TBD
Energy Commission / Public Utilities Commission	SB 1368 Implementation: Set standards for long-term contracts to transition away from carbon-intensive electricity sources.	15
Energy Commission	Building Standards: Update energy efficiency standards for buildings.	TBD
Energy Commission	Tire Efficiency	<1
Energy Commission	Appliance Standards: Regulation of light bulb efficiency.	TBD

Summary of early actions as defined by the Global Warming Solutions Act with Preliminary Estimates of GHG reductions: (continued)

State agency	Early action item	Estimated Reduction (in MMTCO ₂ E*)
Energy Commission	New Solar Homes Partnership	TBD
Department of Water Resources	Water Use Efficiency: Adopt standards for water efficiency for projects and programs.	1
Department of Water Resources	State Water Project: Evaluate the state water system to determine energy uses and make appropriate improvements.	TBD
Department of Water Resources	Cleaner Energy for Water Supply: Ensure that new power contracts rely upon clean power generation.	TBD
Public Utilities Commission	IOU Energy Efficiency Programs: Energy efficiency portfolio development for 2009-2011	4

* Million metric tons of carbon dioxide equivalents

Contact information for Climate Action Team members:

Air Resources Board

Gennet Paauwe, 916/322-2990
www.arb.ca.gov/cc/cc.htm

Department of Food and Agriculture

Nancy Lungren, 916/654-0321
www.cdfa.ca.gov/exec/aep/aes/index.htm.

Business, Transportation & Housing Agency

Mark DeSio, 916/654-5782
www.dot.ca.gov

Department of Forestry and Fire Protection

Mike Jarvis, 916/653-5587
www.fire.ca.gov.

California Energy Commission

Claudia Chandler, 916/654-4989
www.energy.ca.gov

Department of General Services

Bill Branch, 916/376-5036
www.green.ca.gov.

California Integrated Waste Management Board

Jon Myers, 916/445-1296
www.ciwmb.ca.gov.

Department of Water Resources

Sue Simms, 916/651-7242
<http://baydeltaoffice.water.ca.gov/climatechange.cfm>

California Public Utilities Commission

Terrie Prosper, 415/703-2160
www.cpuc.ca.gov/static/061211_egyleader_ship.htm.

#